

# THE SOCIAL AFTER

## Question of Invitations to Summer Homes and Attitude of Those Favored.

NOTE—The Arbitrator will be glad to answer any question of a social nature that may be submitted. Such questions should be addressed to The Arbitrator, care The Washington Herald.

### BY THE ARBITRATOR.

Now is the time when invitations are flying about, the last stitches being put to summer trousseaus, trunks being taken down from the garret, and all the arrangements made for an early summer hitting. Members of Congress and Senators, with their families, will most of them go straight home as soon as Congress adjourns, for there are many political fences out of repair that sorely need fixing; the women of society will distribute themselves among the various Northern resorts, and, as usual, there is a large contingent going to Europe, for not even the hard times seem to affect the travel across the water; and, indeed, one can cross the ocean and live in Europe for the same length of time quite as cheaply as one can at a fashionable resort in America.

The invitations to visit the summer homes of one's friends should be promptly and definitely answered. An irate hostess, whose summer home is at Bar Harbor, announced the other day that more than a month previous she had sent out her invitations for the whole summer, inviting, in all, some hundred people to be her house guests at different times from the first of July until the first of November, and that she had received so far but a single response, which came from a woman who said that if she was not in Europe, as she hoped to be, she would be delighted to come; at least, she could not promise for the time she was invited, the first of August, for if she did not go across she really felt she ought to be with her niece at Magnolia at that time, since she had accepted for last summer, but at the last moment could not go, and she thought she ought to make up to her by going the summer after, but if madam of Bar Harbor would leave the invitation open she would try to get to her some time in September, etc., through eight loosely written pages.

"Now, was there ever such a ridiculous proposition?" asked madam, when she told the story. "My whole season is laid out just as a railroad time table is laid out. I entertain a great deal—constantly—from the time I go to Bar Harbor until I come away in November. I have a certain time; I tell them when the train on which they are expected will arrive and what train they can go away on. To arrange these house parties takes a great deal of time, thought, and management, and for any one to propose to come for any time save when she is invited is an unpardonable piece of presumption or an incredible exhibition of ignorance."

If people could only be made to realize how much lighter they could make the duties of a hostess by promptly responding to her invitations there would be less cause for complaint regarding this matter. That they are so seemingly indifferent, so lacking in courtesy regarding the invitations they receive is simply due to heedlessness, thoughtlessness, for it is manifestly improbable that a person would deliberately commit such a social offense as to ignore an invitation or postpone acknowledging it beyond a suitable time. It must be borne in mind that when a woman invites you to her house she confers upon you the greatest honor within her gift, and nothing should be done to undo it. The accomplished secretary of a fashionable house is a master hand at getting prompt answers to the invitations of her employer. The bids for house parties are carefully worded and read something like this:

"Dear Mrs. Blank: Will you spend a week with me at Glenhaven, from the fourth of July on? You can get a train in Boston that will get you to our station at about 10 o'clock in the morning, and you can return home in a train that leaves here at 3 in the afternoon. Perhaps you will prefer to come all the way through in your own machine. Let me know just what you wish, and I will plan accordingly. I hope I am in time with my invitation and that you have no prior engagement." etc.

An answer couched in some such terms as follows should be sent by mail, if possible: "Dear Mrs. Z:—How good you to think of me! It will give me great pleasure to go to you on the fourth, and you may expect me in the forenoon of that day. I will be with you by train, in the X's yacht, or in my machine I cannot say. I will advise you, however, the moment I have decided." etc.

Now if this answer does not reach the hands of the secretary in question within a week after the invitations are sent out she calls up all of the delinquents by long-distance, and her side of the conversation is quite to the point.

"I want to speak to Mrs. Blank, please. Mrs. Z's secretary. Oh, is that Mrs. Blank? Well, you know I am in a dreadful dilemma, and as you are the only one who can help me I thought I would call you up. Thank you, thank you very much. Well, you see, I sent you an invitation more than a week ago for Mrs. Z, asking you to Glenhaven for the fourth of July, and no answer has come, and you understand—really—how annoying you will see that gets off on me. But can't you just tell me to-night whether you will come or not? You will! How delightful! Mrs. Z would be so glad if you did; she has not yet written you. Hope you will have better luck with the next footman. Thank you. Apologize? No, no! It is I who should apologize. But the lists had to be made out, therefore, to take the bull by the horns and find out myself in the quickest possible way who would come and who would not, so the lists could be rearranged. First I tried writing diplomatically, but that did not work, and finally I hit upon the telephone. It's expensive, but Mrs. Z does not mind a little thing like that when it makes for her success in entertaining. Whenever I call up any one regarding the invitations she is invariably embarrassed, and many and various are the excuses offered. Some one of the family has been sick with a contagious disease, a new and stupid footman is to blame, or 'really the letter was answered the very day it was received; my note must have been lost in the mails; or the person invited was out of town and hasn't even had time to look over her mail since she returned this morning, and a thousand others. If people would only give a little more time and thought to answering invitations as they do to excusing themselves for not answering them, why, the matter would be simple enough. But in the last two years I have educated Mrs. Z's friends up to the point where I rarely have to telephone. They know what is expected of them. The answers come promptly, and if there is the slightest delay there is sure to be an apology."

In these days of telephone and telegraph there would seem to be no excuse for tardiness in answering an invitation, but madam the hostess, despite these

conveniences, is apt to be kept waiting longer than she was a hundred years ago, when formal replies had to be sent by special mounted messengers or stage coach. Nor are the guests as punctilious in the treatment of their entertainers as they were formerly. "Mrs. Blank is so kind to all you young people when you visit her that you must be very grateful and appreciative of her hospitality," is a belle of the '30's to her granddaughters when the latter received an invitation to visit Mrs. Blank in Bar Harbor next summer. "I don't see why," replied Miss Flippant. "Mrs. Blank only invited us because she is fond of young people and because we give her a good time. For my part, I think the shoe is on the other foot, and that it is she who should be grateful and appreciative. If I gushed about her she would think I was a toady, heaven knows, I don't have to be that."

There are plenty of toadies, unhappily, young men and young women, who would be called adventurers and adventuresses if they were not so young and so respectable families. But people of this ilk always overreach themselves. An amiable hostess may take kindly to flattery and affected admiration for a while, but there is sure to come a time when the most stupid woman sees through the machinations of sycophants. I recall the case of a young woman from California who was the house guest one winter of one of the richest women on the Pacific Slope, who had attracted her to her home in Washington, one in Paris, and one in the Isle of Wight—a person who had the means and disposition to distribute pleasure wherever she went with a lavish hand. She had taken the greatest fancy for her little guest, and was really trying to bring about a marriage between her and her only son, who is to-day one of the richest and most conspicuous men in the world.

The young woman had everything to gain and nothing to lose by being as loyally devoted to her hostess as she pretended to be, for the latter had heaped upon her with a hand that was a born adventurer and out up all kinds of capers behind her friend's back. She would mimic her eccentricities, satirize her pet fads, and, while pretending to her hostess that she was a devoted admirer, she was carrying on a despicable flirtation with him surreptitiously. But the end came. The little adventures were indiscreet enough to write the history of the whole affair to a friend in California. She drew caricatures of the woman who was her friend on the margin of the sheet; she made up out of whole cloth all the scandalous stories she could think of about her, and she did it well, for she was a talented girl with a trenchant pen, and concluded the letter by saying: "It's perfectly dreadful living here. I have to keep my eyes turned earthward like a Puritan and I must lose the mark twenty-four hours out of so to look at the light. But just wait until I get home; then I can go to tufftuff, for I am going to get paid in good hard cash for the penitential life I am forced to endure now."

Her letter was sent by a trusty dump and she did not hold the purse strings. Sonny's pa looked after that before he died, so we can go where we want and do what we want just as soon as the knot is tied, and we are free to go where we like. This letter, either fortunately or unfortunately, fell into the hands of a friend of "sonny's" mamma, who immediately dispatched it to that lady in Washington. The result was that the woman who had packed her little protégée off with baggage, to the glorious West. As for "sonny," he sympathized entirely with mamma and his flirtation with her little friend was at an end with her departure. The whole story is too vulgar to be believable, and happily there are not many such; but this one is true and happened exactly as it is set down here.

### SOCIAL QUESTIONS ANSWERED

1. Question—Can't you influence the theater-going public to better behavior when they are at the play? This is how my enjoyment was spoiled at a recent performance of the "Hunchback of Notre Dame." A young woman behind me roared my name back with the toe of her slipper until my head fairly began to spin; and, in addition, the woman in the next seat lowered the curtain rope, began to cry and said she was going to leave. I wonder the Mummy did not hear her; a couple down in front talked through the whole performance, and a man two or three seats to the right was wailing every act, seemingly indifferent to the fact he was in the presence of the great drama.

2. Question—Will you kindly tell me something to serve at the beginning of a dinner instead of oysters and the ubiquitous grape fruit, of which I found it was the only way? I explained the secretary. "A month would be too long before the invitations would be answered, and consequently our plans would be at a standstill. I determined, therefore, to take the bull by the horns and find out myself in the quickest possible way who would come and who would not, so the lists could be rearranged. First I tried writing diplomatically, but that did not work, and finally I hit upon the telephone. It's expensive, but Mrs. Z does not mind a little thing like that when it makes for her success in entertaining. Whenever I call up any one regarding the invitations she is invariably embarrassed, and many and various are the excuses offered. Some one of the family has been sick with a contagious disease, a new and stupid footman is to blame, or 'really the letter was answered the very day it was received; my note must have been lost in the mails; or the person invited was out of town and hasn't even had time to look over her mail since she returned this morning, and a thousand others. If people would only give a little more time and thought to answering invitations as they do to excusing themselves for not answering them, why, the matter would be simple enough. But in the last two years I have educated Mrs. Z's friends up to the point where I rarely have to telephone. They know what is expected of them. The answers come promptly, and if there is the slightest delay there is sure to be an apology."

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# JAPAN IN MANCHURIA.

## Explanation of the Friction Which Has Arisen There.

From the New York Tribune.

A highly interesting and quite plausible explanation is given by the Tokyo correspondent of the London Times, on Japanese authority, of the course which has been pursued by the Japanese in Manchuria since the war with Russia, and which has resulted in the rousing of so much actual resentment and antagonism among the Chinese, and so much apprehension that the Japanese are about to undertake the conquest of the whole of the Far East. It is clearly recognized in Japan, as it could not easily fall to be, that the policy pursued in Manchuria has not been altogether satisfactory to the world, although there has been some legitimate ground for dissatisfaction, although there has been much to commend, and although some of the adverse criticisms have been based upon misapprehension or misunderstanding.

The first trouble was at Tairen, which place the Japanese kept for a time closed against all commerce but their own, in spite of the fact that it had been, and is, a free port. The Japanese kept it closed partly because of the purely military occupation and administration of Southern Manchuria, and partly because the Russian government had not yet assented to the establishment of custom houses along the Russo-Chinese frontier. Eventually, this trouble was abated by the opening of Tairen to all the world on equal terms considerably in advance of the organization of a custom service on the Siberian boundary. Then another cause of complaint arose in the alleged discrimination practiced by the Japanese in railroad rates in favor of Tairen, against New Chang and other ports, and this, too, was settled by a declaration of equalization of rates. Since then many other complaints have been made against the Japanese, but they have not been specific. It has been vaguely declared in Europe that the Japanese are seeking a monopoly of trade in Southern Manchuria, and are exerting all possible influence to that end, but precisely what they are doing is not stated.

That there has been apparent ground for complaint on the Japanese themselves admit. It took some time to remodel and equip the railroads, and meantime it was impossible to carry promptly all freight that was offered; and it was only natural that the Japanese should give preference to their own goods, especially to government goods. The soldiers who manned the roads, too, acted toward civilian passengers and shippers with some degree of military brusqueness, not to say roughness.

But the question which perhaps best illustrates the Japanese attitude toward the world is the question of neutrality. The Japanese have been prohibited by international usage; that there is little difference between giving a belligerent war supplies and the where-withal to purchase them; that loans tend to prolong a contest, and that complete and true neutrality is indirectly violated by them.

Certainly in our day war is almost impossible without foreign loans, and to exhaust the borrowing capacity of a belligerent is to compel it to sue for peace. Public opinion is not ready to demand the absolute prohibition of foreign war loans, but the subject is clearly one that will need attention and consideration. It is, too, one that should be met with a public opinion with common sense and the general sense of justice.

Things are beginning to change now, and Honolulu knows that it will not be long before the whole United States will wake up to the fact that the Territory of Hawaii is right in the middle of the game. This same United States is spending some untold millions to cut a ditch across the Panama Canal. Why? To facilitate trade in the Pacific Ocean. This same United States is showing the world a few things by sending the biggest fleet of war ships ever got together for such a cruise all over the Pacific. Why? To show to the world that the American trade and prestige in the Pacific is to be guarded. No one supposes that the United States is going to permit any of its Pacific prestige to be taken away, and everybody ought to know that American trade in the great ocean will be extended, if human means and Yankee wit can accomplish it.

Where will the American battle ships stop on their way across the Pacific? Honolulu. Where will the merchant vessels that carry the American trade to the Orient put on? Honolulu. Where will the great stream of traffic that will burst through from the Atlantic when the ditch is dug first touch? Honolulu. Where will be the great American naval base in the Pacific? Pearl Harbor. Where will be the great American military base in the Pacific? Honolulu. Where will be the great American military base in the Pacific? Honolulu. Where will be the great American military base in the Pacific? Honolulu.

### THE TREATY OF TAIPEI.

By EX-ATTACHE.

British India's totally unprovoked invasion by an Afghan force last week, has had the effect of bringing into activity the treaty between Japan and England signed in London on August 12, 1905, that is to say, before the Russo-Japanese war had been brought to a conclusion by the peace of Portsmouth.

The treaty in question has been so much misquoted and misunderstood, that it may be worth while to give here such portions of the official version as apply to the present situation created by Afghanistan. The most important paragraph of the instrument in this connection is undoubtedly article 2, which reads: "If, by any means, an unprovoked attack or aggressive action, wherever arising, on the part of any other power or powers, either contracting party should be involved in war in defense of its territorial rights, or special interests mentioned in the preamble of this agreement, the other contracting party will at once come to the assistance of its ally, and will conduct the war in common, making peace in mutual agreement with it."

### Preamble to Article.

The preamble referred to in the article is as follows:

"The governments of Great Britain and Japan, being desirous of replacing the agreement concluded between them on January 30, 1902, by fresh stipulations, have agreed upon the following articles, which have for their object: "(a) The consolidation and maintenance of the general peace in the regions of Eastern Asia and of India; "(b) The preservation of the common interests of all powers in China by insuring the independence and integrity of the Chinese Empire and the maintenance of equal opportunities for commerce and industry of all nations in China; "(c) The maintenance of the territorial rights of the high contracting parties in the regions of Eastern Asia and of India, and the defense of their special interests in the said regions."

Careful consideration should be accorded to these extracts of the treaty. For, in the hands of the press, the treaty has been spread abroad as a declaration of war on both sides of the Atlantic to the effect that Great Britain was bound to support Japan in the event of the latter embarking on an expedition against the Russian Empire, and that the "special interests" of the United States, and they demonstrate conclusively that the "special interests" which the "high contracting parties" pledge themselves to defend are confined to the "regions of Eastern Asia and of India."

### Japan Must Aid Britain.

On the other hand, article II plainly shows that Japan is under an obligation to come "at once to the assistance of its ally and to conduct the war in common, making peace in mutual agreement with it," without waiting for any summons for help. In fact, it is a question whether under the terms of the treaty of August, 1905, England has the right to refuse the armed co-operation of Japan in punishing the Afghan invasion, should the Mikado insist upon taking a hand in the conflict.

At the time when this agreement between England and Japan was concluded—one of the principal objects which the British statesman engaged in negotiation had in view was the possibility of an armed invasion by Russia of India, Afghanistan being regarded as within the latter's sphere. It cannot be said that the alliance appealed to the subjects of Edward VII either in the United Kingdom or in the great colonial dependencies subject to his sway, while it aroused particularly vigorous criticism and condemnation on the part of most of those Britons whose residence in the far East has enabled them to realize that a treaty of this kind was of a character to impair the prestige of England throughout the Orient, and who regarded the union somewhat in the light of miscegenation.

So pronounced has been the unpopularity of the treaty that in the hope of averting the possibility of its provisions ever being called into activity against Russia, Sir Edward Grey last year concluded an agreement with the Czar upon all subjects of difference between the two countries, especially the problems relating to Asia.

### Approve Anglo-Russian Treaty.

One of the principal points made in favor of this Anglo-Russian agreement, in Parliament, on the 14th of March, in the English House of Commons, was that it had the effect of rendering superfluous the distasteful alliance with Japan, since there was no longer any likelihood of Japanese assistance ever becoming necessary to resist a Russian invasion of the British Empire. In a remarkable speech in the House of Lords in favor of the Anglo-Russian

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The first trouble was at Tairen, which place the Japanese kept for a time closed against all commerce but their own, in spite of the fact that it had been, and is, a free port. The Japanese kept it closed partly because of the purely military occupation and administration of Southern Manchuria, and partly because the Russian government had not yet assented to the establishment of custom houses along the Russo-Chinese frontier. Eventually, this trouble was abated by the opening of Tairen to all the world on equal terms considerably in advance of the organization of a custom service on the Siberian boundary. Then another cause of complaint arose in the alleged discrimination practiced by the Japanese in railroad rates in favor of Tairen, against New Chang and other ports, and this, too, was settled by a declaration of equalization of rates. Since then many other complaints have been made against the Japanese, but they have not been specific. It has been vaguely declared in Europe that the Japanese are seeking a monopoly of trade in Southern Manchuria, and are exerting all possible influence to that end, but precisely what they are doing is not stated.

That there has been apparent ground for complaint on the Japanese themselves admit. It took some time to remodel and equip the railroads, and meantime it was impossible to carry promptly all freight that was offered; and it was only natural that the Japanese should give preference to their own goods, especially to government goods. The soldiers who manned the roads, too, acted toward civilian passengers and shippers with some degree of military brusqueness, not to say roughness.

But the question which perhaps best illustrates the Japanese attitude toward the world is the question of neutrality. The Japanese have been prohibited by international usage; that there is little difference between giving a belligerent war supplies and the where-withal to purchase them; that loans tend to prolong a contest, and that complete and true neutrality is indirectly violated by them.

Certainly in our day war is almost impossible without foreign loans, and to exhaust the borrowing capacity of a belligerent is to compel it to sue for peace. Public opinion is not ready to demand the absolute prohibition of foreign war loans, but the subject is clearly one that will need attention and consideration. It is, too, one that should be met with a public opinion with common sense and the general sense of justice.

Things are beginning to change now, and Honolulu knows that it will not be long before the whole United States will wake up to the fact that the Territory of Hawaii is right in the middle of the game. This same United States is spending some untold millions to cut a ditch across the Panama Canal. Why? To facilitate trade in the Pacific Ocean. This same United States is showing the world a few things by sending the biggest fleet of war ships ever got together for such a cruise all over the Pacific. Why? To show to the world that the American trade and prestige in the Pacific is to be guarded. No one supposes that the United States is going to permit any of its Pacific prestige to be taken away, and everybody ought to know that American trade in the great ocean will be extended, if human means and Yankee wit can accomplish it.

Where will the American battle ships stop on their way across the Pacific? Honolulu. Where will the merchant vessels that carry the American trade to the Orient put on? Honolulu. Where will the great stream of traffic that will burst through from the Atlantic when the ditch is dug first touch? Honolulu. Where will be the great American naval base in the Pacific? Pearl Harbor. Where will be the great American military base in the Pacific? Honolulu. Where will be the great American military base in the Pacific? Honolulu.

### THE TREATY OF TAIPEI.

By EX-ATTACHE.

British India's totally unprovoked invasion by an Afghan force last week, has had the effect of bringing into activity the treaty between Japan and England signed in London on August 12, 1905, that is to say, before the Russo-Japanese war had been brought to a conclusion by the peace of Portsmouth.

The treaty in question has been so much misquoted and misunderstood, that it may be worth while to give here such portions of the official version as apply to the present situation created by Afghanistan. The most important paragraph of the instrument in this connection is undoubtedly article 2, which reads: "If, by any means, an unprovoked attack or aggressive action, wherever arising, on the part of any other power or powers, either contracting party should be involved in war in defense of its territorial rights, or special interests mentioned in the preamble of this agreement, the other contracting party will at once come to the assistance of its ally, and will conduct the war in common, making peace in mutual agreement with it."

### Preamble to Article.

The preamble referred to in the article is as follows:

"The governments of Great Britain and Japan, being desirous of replacing the agreement concluded between them on January 30, 1902, by fresh stipulations, have agreed upon the following articles, which have for their object: "(a) The consolidation and maintenance of the general peace in the regions of Eastern Asia and of India; "(b) The preservation of the common interests of all powers in China by insuring the independence and integrity of the Chinese Empire and the maintenance of equal opportunities for commerce and industry of all nations in China; "(c) The maintenance of the territorial rights of the high contracting parties in the regions of Eastern Asia and of India, and the defense of their special interests in the said regions."

Careful consideration should be accorded to these extracts of the treaty. For, in the hands of the press, the treaty has been spread abroad as a declaration of war on both sides of the Atlantic to the effect that Great Britain was bound to support Japan in the event of the latter embarking on an expedition against the Russian Empire, and that the "special interests" of the United States, and they demonstrate conclusively that the "special interests" which the "high contracting parties" pledge themselves to defend are confined to the "regions of Eastern Asia and of India."

### Japan Must Aid Britain.

On the other hand, article II plainly shows that Japan is under an obligation to come "at once to the assistance of its ally and to conduct the war in common, making peace in mutual agreement with it," without waiting for any summons for help. In fact, it is a question whether under the terms of the treaty of August, 1905, England has the right to refuse the armed co-operation of Japan in punishing the Afghan invasion, should the Mikado insist upon taking a hand in the conflict.

At the time when this agreement between England and Japan was concluded—one of the principal objects which the British statesman engaged in negotiation had in view was the possibility of an armed invasion by Russia of India, Afghanistan being regarded as within the latter's sphere. It cannot be said that the alliance appealed to the subjects of Edward VII either in the United Kingdom or in the great colonial dependencies subject to his sway, while it aroused particularly vigorous criticism and condemnation on the part of most of those Britons whose residence in the far East has enabled them to realize that a treaty of this kind was of a character to impair the prestige of England throughout the Orient, and who regarded the union somewhat in the light of miscegenation.

So pronounced has been the unpopularity of the treaty that in the hope of averting the possibility of its provisions ever being called into activity against Russia, Sir Edward Grey last year concluded an agreement with the Czar upon all subjects of difference between the two countries, especially the problems relating to Asia.

### Approve Anglo-Russian Treaty.

One of the principal points made in favor of this Anglo-Russian agreement, in Parliament, on the 14th of March, in the English House of Commons, was that it had the effect of rendering superfluous the distasteful alliance with Japan, since there was no longer any likelihood of Japanese assistance ever becoming necessary to resist a Russian invasion of the British Empire. In a remarkable speech in the House of Lords in favor of the Anglo-Russian

ness, for which they are said to have been approved by their superiors. But above all, a good many Japanese assumed that Japan had succeeded Russia in all respects in Manchuria, and that therefore, the Japanese were privileged to act as the Russians had acted and to enjoy the special advantages which the Russians had enjoyed. They are getting rid of that error now, and in consequence, are materially changing their attitude toward the Chinese and toward all foreigners.

### WAR LOANS AND NEUTRALITY.

#### An Important Question Bearing on Promotion of Peace.

From the Chicago Record-Herald.